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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: EXCERPT FROM NBC-TV "TODAY" SHOW

1. FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT FROM NBC-TV "TODAY" SHOW, NOVEMBER 29, TOM BROKAW INTERVIEW WITH DAVID WISE, AUTHOR OF "THE AMERICAN POLICE STATE":

QUOTE: BROKAW: YOU REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT HENRY KISSINGER DESPITE HIS PROTEST AND DENIALS WAS CENTRAL AND THE BUGGING THAT WENT ON DURING THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION, THE WIRE TAPPING OF MEMBERS OF THE NSC AND OTHER WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBERS.

MR. WISE: YES, KISSINGER HAS TESTIFIED THAT HIS ROLE IS PASSIVE AND AFTER EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE IN DETAIL IN THE BOOK AND ON MY OWN I COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT HIS ROLE WAS ANYTHING BUT PASSIVE. HE WAS VERY ACTIVE. HE PROVIDED 14 OF THE 17 NAMES OF THE PERSONS WIRE TAPPED WHO WERE

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HIS ASSOCIATES, NEWSMEN, WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBERS AND

OTHER OFFICIALS, A TOTAL OF 17. 14 OF THOSE NAMES CAME THROUGH KISSINGER THROUGH ALEXANDER HAIG. KISSINGER WENT OVER TO THE FBI, THE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS, AT LEAST ONCE TO READ THE WIRE TAPS THEMSELVES WHICH ISN'T GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD.

BROKAW: BUT WE STILL HAVE NO SPECIFIC HARD EVIDENCE OF A DIRECT COMMAND OR REQUEST FROM KISSINGER, OR TO THE FBI FOR THESE WIRE TAPS, DO WE?

MR. WISE: NO, WE DO HAVE THAT BECAUSE IN THE CASE OF HIS SENDING GENERAL HAIG OVER 14 TIMES. IF YOU MEAN DID HE SUGGEST THE ORIGINAL IDEA OF WIRE TAPPING HE SAYS THAT WAS J. EDGAR HOOVER'S IDEA. HOWEVER, MY CONCLUSION IS THAT DR. KISSINGER MISLED THE PUBLIC AND THE CONGRESS AND THE PRESS ABOUT THE EXTENT OF HIS ROLE. HE KEPT 37--HE HAD 37 WIRE TAP LOGS SENT TO HIM AND HE KEPT SOME OF THESE IN THE SAFE THAT CONTAINS THE SO-CALLED NUCLEAR BUTTON BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD ORDER A NUCLEAR ATTACK. THAT'S HOW EXPLOSIVE I SUPPOSE HE FELT THEY WERE.

BROKAW: IN GENERAL TOO MUCH OF THIS ABUSE OF COURSE IS J. EDGAR HOOVER WHO IS THE LORD OF THE FBI, A KIND OF GOVERNMENT UNTO HIMSELF AS HE SAW DOING A GREAT DEAL OF THIS PERIOD. HE WAS A BUREAUCRATIC FOX AS YOU HAVE DESCRIBED HIM IN YOUR BOOK. ISN'T IT POSSIBLE HE SET KISSINGER UP IN A SENSE BY LEADING MEMORANDA THAT PLACED KISSINGER AS THE CULPRIT?

MR. WISE: WELL, HOOVER WAS A MASTER AT LEAVING A TRAIL OF PAPER. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY QUESTION THAT THESE THINGS HAPPENED. ONE OF THE PERSONS WHO WAS WIRE TAPPED AT KISSINGER'S DIRECTION, ALTHOUGH KISSINGER HAS DENIED IT, WAS WILLIAM SAPHIRE, PRESIDENT NIXON'S SPEECH WRITER. NOW IT'S IRONICAL THAT AT ONE POINT PRESIDENT NIXON CALLED SAPHIRE AT HIS HOME IN CHEVY CHASE OR BETHESDA AND THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF WAS WIRE TAPPED ON HIS OWN TAP TALKING TO SAPHIRE. IT MUST HAVE GIVEN THE FBI PEOPLE VERY NERVOUS MOMENTS. ROBINSON

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